LIFE & CULTURE

CHOWDERS STILL GOOD EVEN IF IT'S NOT COLD OUTSIDE

»1C

SPORTS

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Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire

THE DENVER POST

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CIVIC CENTER STATION

Hub, up and away

People board the 16th Street Mall bus at the renovated Civic Center Station on Tuesday. The station, which officially opens Sunday, will have contracted security personnel, Denver police officers and surveillance cameras. *Joe Amon, The Denver Post*

Renovated transit complex heightens security, adds bays, eases traffic

By John Aguilar *The Denver Post*

Nearly 18 months after demolition crews began the methodical disassembly of Civic Center Station, a new transit hub has risen in its place, featuring heightened security, additional bus bays and a time-saving exit for buses headed north on Lincoln Street.

The Regional Transportation District unveiled the $31 million project to reporters Tuesday, ahead of the official opening of the station Sunday.

RTD general manager Dave Genova said one of the most important features of the revamped station is increased safety. The facility will have not only contracted security personnel and Denver police officers but also 120 surveillance cameras.

Additionally, the design of the new Civic Center Station emphasizes more openness than had been the case with its predecessor, where sight lines were short and places to lurk more plentiful. The station first opened in 1984.

"Security is incredibly important to us," Genova said. "Part of the concept of having this area open is people being able to see around."

CENTER » 8A

U.S. SENATE

Jones stuns GOP's Moore

Breaking a decades-old drought, the Democrat cuts Republicans' edge to 51-49.

By Kim Chandler and Steve Peoples
The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, ALA.» In a stunning victory aided by scandal, Democrat Doug Jones won Alabama's special Senate election Tuesday, beating back history, an embattled Republican opponent and President Donald Trump, who urgently endorsed GOP rebel Roy Moore despite a litany of sexual-misconduct allegations.

It was the first Democratic Senate victory in a quarter-century in Alabama, one of the reddest of red states, and it proved anew that party loyalty is anything but sure in the age of Trump.

It was a major embarrassment for the president and a fresh wound for the nation's divided Republican Party.

The victory by Jones, a former U.S. attorney best known for prosecuting two Ku Klux Klansmen responsible for Birmingham's infamous 1963 church bombing, narrows the GOP advantage in the U.S. Senate to 51-49. That imperils uncertain Republican tax, budget and health proposals, and injects tremendous energy into the Democratic Party's early push to reclaim House

POLITICS » 15A

LAST-MINUTE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Amazon primes procrastinators' pump

By Tamara Chuang
The Denver Post

This Christmas, last-minute shopping goes to a new extreme in Denver.

You have Amazon to thank — or blame — for this. After most stores close on Christmas Eve and after children are nestled safe in their beds, Amazon Prime members in Denver still can place an order for a last-minute gift up until 9:45 p.m. and get it delivered before midnight. For free.

"One of the unique things about Prime Now, especially for the holiday season, is because we offer one- to two-hour delivery for cus-

AMAZON » 12A

Amazon's Treasure Truck, parked at the Cherry Creek mall on Saturday, was offering online deals of more than 40 percent off on selected goods. *Andy Cross, The Denver Post*

HOUSE-SENATE NEGOTIATIONS

New package would lower top tax rate for wealthy Americans

By Stephen Ohlemacher and Marcy Gordon
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON» Congressional Republicans on Tuesday rushed toward a deal on a massive tax package that would reduce the top tax rate for wealthy Americans to 37 percent and slash the corporate rate to a level slightly higher than what businesses and conservatives wanted.

In a flurry of last-minute changes that could profoundly affect the pocketbooks of millions of Americans, House and Senate negotiators agreed to expand a deduction for state and local taxes to allow individuals to deduct income taxes as well as property taxes. The deduction is valuable to residents in high-tax states like New York, New Jersey and California.

Negotiators also agreed to set the corporate income tax rate at 21 percent, said two congressional aides who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss private negotiations. Both the House bill and the Senate bill would have lowered the corporate rate from 35 percent to 20 percent.

TAXES » 6A

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